

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

IDLEWILD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 10, 2023 | 8:30 & 11:00 A.M.



**Bold text is read
by the congregation.**
***Asterisk indicates when to
rise in body or in spirit.**

**Please sign the friendship
pad** so we may take note of
your presence and you may
greet your neighbors by
name.



**During the Hymn of
Preparation, the cantor will
sing each verse. The
congregation is invited to
join in singing the refrain
when directed.**

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

AN ENGLISH CAROL
LANDRY DUVAL, ORGANIST

ARR. CHARLES CALLAHAN

WELCOME

THE REVEREND DAVID J. POWERS

HYMN OF PREPARATION NO. 86

THE PEOPLE WHO WALKED IN DARKNESS
WILL LOWERY, CANTOR

MARY LOUISE BRINGLE

Refrain (E) (Am7) (D) (G) (C) (F#dim7) (B) (Em)
G Cm7 F Bb Eb Adim7 D Gm

His name is Won-der-ful, Coun-sel - or, Al-might - y God,

(Cmaj7) (G) (Am7) (D) 1 (G)
Ebmaj7 Bb Cm7 F Bb

Fa - ther for - ev - er, Prince of Peace.

2 (G) (B7sus) (B) Final (G) (C/G) (G)
Bb D7sus D Bb Eb/Bb Bb

Peace. (to stanzas) Peace.



Hymn No. 93 Beginning as a paraphrase of Psalm 24:7–10, this text then applies the door imagery to the singer's heart, and concludes with the individual's welcome of the approaching Savior. It is set to a very effective anonymous 18th-century English tune that has served many texts.

The prayer, Kyrie eleison, "Lord, have mercy" derives from a Biblical phrase: "have mercy on me, Lord."

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF PEACE

Hear the words of the prophet Isaiah,
"For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;

and he is named Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Hear the words of Jesus,
"Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God."

PRAYER OF THE DAY

*HYMN OF CELEBRATION NO. 93

TRURO

LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YE MIGHTY GATES

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (8:30) (11:00)

THE REVEREND MARY NEWBERG GALE
THE REVEREND COURTNEY VEAZEY

Holy and loving God,
we have dwelt in darkness
and preferred it to the light;
we have been proud of our accomplishments
and despaired over our shortcomings.
Smooth down the mountains of our pride,
and lift up the valleys of our doubts.

Open a path in the wilderness of our lives
that we might find our way to you again.

Refine us and prepare us once again
for life in your kingdom.

(Silent Confession)

*KYRIE NO. 575 LORD, HAVE MERCY UPON US

KYRIE ELEISON

Capo 1: (Em) Fm (Bm7) (Em) (C) Cm7 Fm D^b

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us; Christ, have mer - cy up -

(C) (B) (Cmaj7) (Em) (Bm7) (Em) D^b C D^bmaj7 Fm Cm7 Fm

on us; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON (8:30) (11:00)

REV. GALE
REV. VEAZEY

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates 93

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
 2 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
 3 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to

King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is
 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
 thee; here, Lord, a - bide. Let me thy in - ner

draw - ing near; the Sav - ior of the world is here.
 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
 pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in me re - veal.

Beginning as a paraphrase of Psalm 24:7–10, this text then applies the door imagery to the singer's heart, and concludes with the individual's welcome of the approaching Savior. It is set to a very effective anonymous 18th-century English tune that has served many texts.



Passing of the Peace is one of the most ancient responses in worship. We invite you to share a sign of peace with your neighbor.

As children come forward during the gathering hymn, you are invited to pass your quarters to the center aisle for the children to collect for their offering. Quarters are sent to the Dougbe Presbyterian River School in Liberia.



*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 113

GLORIA

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH (REFRAIN)



*PASSING OF THE PEACE (8:30) (11:00)

REV. GALE
CANNON SHERMAN

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

HYMN OF GATHERING NO. 115 (11:00)

MUELLER

AWAY IN A MANGER

TIME WITH THE YOUNGER CHURCH (11:00)

JEANENE MUTCHLER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.

115

Away in a Manger

Capo 3: (D)
F

(G)
B \flat

(D)
F

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the poor ba - by wakes,
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay

(A7)
C7

(D)
F

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes.
close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.

(G)
B \flat

(D)
F

The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
I love thee, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky,
Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,

(A7)
C7

(D)
F

(Em)
Gm

(A7)
C7

(D)
F

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is night.
and fit us for heav - en to live with thee there.

Though erroneously attributed to Martin Luther, this anonymous carol has North American roots, probably originating among Pennsylvania Lutherans. Although more than forty melodies have been connected with these words, this tune was among the earliest written for them.



Before we can know God,
God knows us. Baptism is
one of the two sacraments
of the Presbyterian Church
(USA) in response to the
grace of God, who calls us to
be the people of God. We
welcome children and adults
into the fellowship of faith.
The congregation promises
to guide, nurture, and love
the baptized person.

At this time, three-year-olds
to kindergarteners are
welcome to proceed to the
hallway with an adult and
sign into Worship and
Wonder.



The sermon is a reflection
on the day's scriptures,
suggesting implications for
our faith and life.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

REV. POWERS

THOMAS DILLON ELLIS

Son of Jill and Kirk Ellis

Brother of Charlotte and Jackson Ellis

SIMON ALEXANDER BLAIR FRASER

Son of Allyn and Alexander Fraser

BAPTISMAL HYMN

Child of blessing, child of promise,	Child of God, your loving Parent,
Baptized with the Spirit's sign,	Learn to listen for God's call.
With this water God has sealed you	Grow to laugh and sing and worship,
Unto love and grace divine.	Trust and love God more than all.

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

REV. POWERS

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON MARK 1:1-5

SERMON

A WEARY WORLD REJOICES:
THE BEGINNING OF THE GOOD NEWS

SILENT REFLECTION

Today's Affirmation of Faith
is from *The Iona Community*
Creed.



During this time, we invite
you to continue your support
of the church and her
mission. Online giving is
available through Realm or
through the mail. Those in
the sanctuary may place
their offering in the plate as
it is passed.



RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (8:30)

REV. GALE

(11:00)

THE REVEREND JOSHUA H. NARCISSE

We believe that God is present
in the darkness before dawn;

**in the waiting and uncertainty
where fear and courage join hands,**

conflict and caring link arms,
and the sun rises over barbed wire.

**We believe in a with-us God
who sits down in our midst
to share our humanity.**

We affirm a faith
that takes us beyond a safe place:
into action, into vulnerability,
and onto the streets.

**We commit ourselves to work for change
and put ourselves on the line;
to bear responsibility, take risks,
live powerfully,
and face humiliation;
to stand with those on the edge;
to choose life and be used by the Spirit
for God's new community of hope.**

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE (11:00)

REV. GALE

MOMENT FOR MINISTRY CUBA PARTNERSHIP

A.J. NORTHROP

OFFERING OUR GIFTS & TITHES (8:30)

REV. GALE

(11:00)

REV. NARCISSE

OFFERTORY (8:30)

COME, THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS

ARR. MARK HAYES

LANDRY DUVALL, PIANIST

(11:00)

THE GLORY OF THE FATHER

EGIL HOVLAND

CHANCEL CHOIR

The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

We beheld the glory of the Father,
full of grace and truth.

In the beginning was the Word. The Word was with God.

In Him was life; and the life was the life of all.
He came to his own, and his own received him not.



Hymn No. 87 This 17th-century German paraphrase of Isaiah 40:1–5 was one of the texts translated as part of the 19th-century British interest in German religious poetry. It is set here to one of the most popular Genevan psalter tunes, probably derived from an earlier French folksong.

During the Benediction Response, the Chancel Choir will sing a verse, and the congregation will join in on the refrain.



*RESPONSE NO. 607

PRaise GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit, evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (8:30) (11:00)

REV. GALE
REV. NARCISSE

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION (8:30)

REV. POWERS AND REV. GALE

*HYMN OF SENDING NO. 87

GENEVAN 42

COMFORT, COMFORT NOW MY PEOPLE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

REV. POWERS

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;
the hills and moun-tains shall break forth with sing - ing!
We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

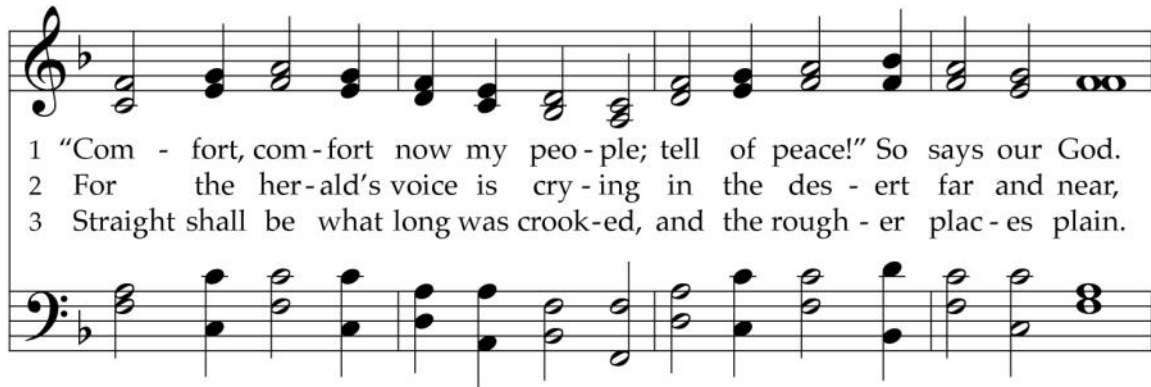
The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text. The second staff contains the melody for the second line of text, with chord markings G, Em, D, C, and G above the notes. The third staff contains the melody for the third line of text, with chord markings C and G above the notes. The fourth staff contains the melody for the fourth line of text, with chord markings G, C, D, and G above the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

POSTLUDE

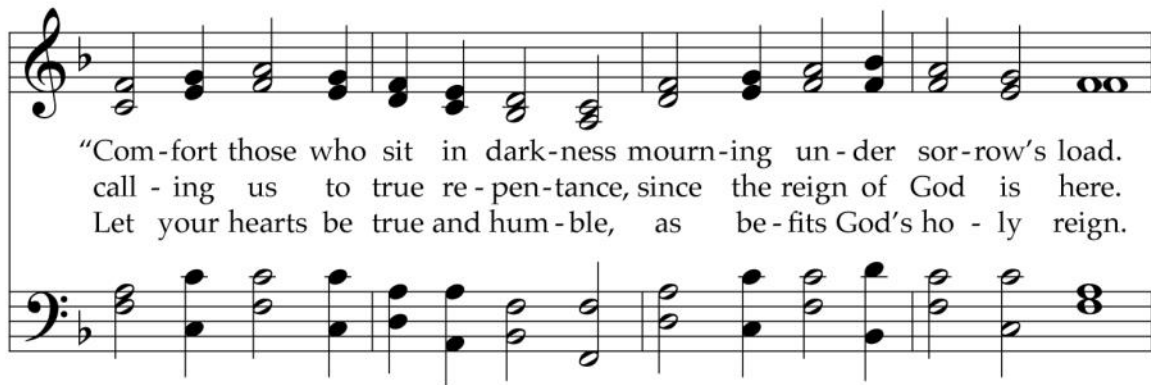
COMFORT, COMFORT NOW MY PEOPLE
LANDRY DUVAL, ORGANIST

ARR. JERRY WESTENKUEHLER

Comfort, Comfort Now My People 87



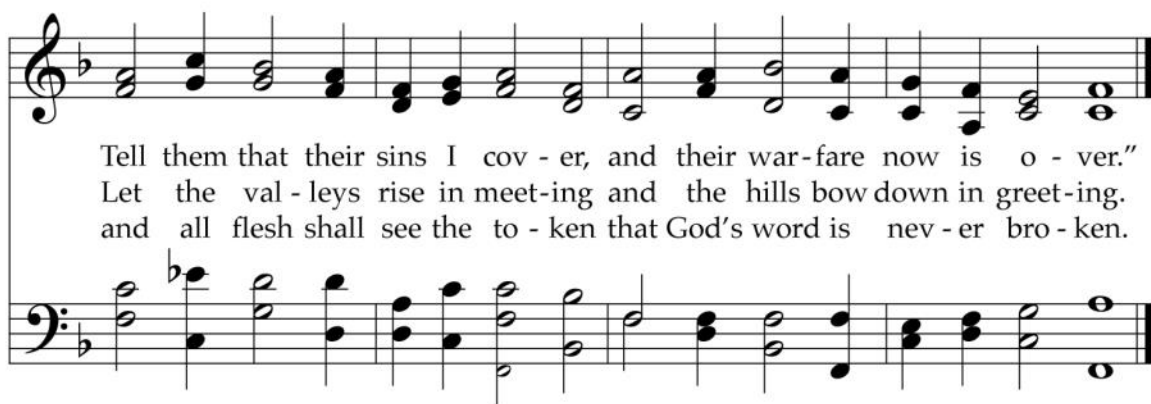
1 "Com - fort, com - fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.
 2 For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
 3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



"Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn - ing un - der sor - row's load.
 call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.
 Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits God's ho - ly reign.



To my peo - ple now pro - claim that my par - don waits for them!
 O, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.
 For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their sins I cov - er, and their war - fare now is o - ver."
 Let the val - leys rise in meet - ing and the hills bow down in greet - ing.
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

This 17th-century German paraphrase of Isaiah 40:1–5 was one of the texts translated as part of the 19th-century British interest in German religious poetry. It is set here to one of the most popular Genevan Psalter tunes, probably derived from an earlier French folksong.

♦ *this week in print* ♦

Church-wide

Poinsettia orders (due today): Gifts of poinsettias to adorn the Sanctuary are made in honor or in memory of a loved one. Each poinsettia is \$13. Order from the link below, or place your donation in the collection plate.

On December 24 there will be one Sunday morning worship service at 10:00 in the Sanctuary to celebrate the fourth Sunday of Advent. That afternoon and evening, we will celebrate Christmas Eve at 3:00 (child-led service), 5:00 (Lessons and Carols), and 11:00 pm (youth-led candlelight service).

Nurture

Waffle Sunday is Dec. 17 at 9:40 am in Montgomery Hall. Join in this annual tradition of waffles, bacon, hymns and carols.

The gym floor is being refinished on December 14. The gym will be closed that day through January 2. All gym-related activities will resume on January 3.

Outreach

Room in the Inn season is here and requires a multitude of volunteers! For more information about this weekly ministry that occurs on Thursdays and to sign up to serve, please visit our church calendar.

Adult Ministry

The Art of Reading (Tuesdays 2:00, Room 303): Join us to discuss Beale Street Dynasty, a well-written book on a fascinating topic. No need to study in advance or even have a copy!

Sacred Ground Informational Meeting (Jan. 4, 6:00): This is a film and readings-based series on race, grounded in faith. Hosted at Idlewild by Ashley Bonds, Virginia Evans and Tom Momberg.

Young Adult Women's Ornament Exchange (Tues., Dec. 12, 7:00): Come to Christine Driskill's house. Bring an ornament, an appetizer or dessert to share, and a festive spirit!

Youth Ministry

Christmas Eve 11:00 Youth-Led Candlelight Service. Youth in grades 6-12 will lead as liturgists, worship leaders, singers, and ushers. Sign up on the Sign-Up Genius.

Childrens Ministry

Toy Drive (through tomorrow): Help provide presents for the 125 children in the Refugee Empowerment Program. Drop off a new, unwrapped toy, value between \$10 and \$15, for children ages 3-12, in the bin in the Jones Building today and tomorrow.

Child-Led Christmas Eve Service (Dec. 24, 3:00): Sign up your three-year-old through 5th grader to help lead this special service. Details are in the sign ups.



You can find all registration links and volunteer sign-ups by scanning the QR code or visiting www.idlewildchurch.org/calendar.

WELCOME NOTICES

Welcome to Idlewild! We are glad to have you join us for worship. If you are new to Idlewild, it is our prayer that you will experience the presence of God while you are here. At Idlewild, it is our hope that all who enter find a home.

Children are always welcome in worship. In addition, childcare for children newborns—3 years is available in the Jones Building in Room 153. Children of all ages are invited to pick up a worship packet in the main hallway that can be utilized to enhance their worship experience. During the 11:00 service there is a special Time with the Younger Church, after which children ages 3 years— kindergarten may go to **Worship and Wonder** on the third floor of the Jones building. Children will be led to the room through the exit on the right side of the sanctuary near the handbells up front. The exit will take us directly to an exterior entrance to the Jones building. The sign in sheet will be on a table at the base of the Jones Building stairwell. Parents may return to the sanctuary by the same path or by taking the main stairwell. Parents pick up children from Worship and Wonder following the conclusion of worship.

New members are received by the Session. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to join the Idlewild family. Please call (901)726-4681 during the week.

Prayer requests are prayed daily by the Community Prayer Ministry Team and the Confidential Prayer Partners. If your prayers are confidential, you may call (901-487-6062) or submit them by email to confidentialprayers@idlewildchurch.org. Otherwise, you can fill out a Community Prayer Request card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate or fill out the Community Prayer Request form on the church website.

If you have a personal emergency, hospitalization, or pastoral care need, please call or text (901) 654-6872. The Pastor on Call will respond as soon as possible. You can also email pastor@idlewildchurch.org. The Pastor on Call for the week of December 10 is Mary Newberg Gale.

WORSHIP NOTICES

The sanctuary flowers are given today to the Glory of God in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. A. VanCourt Pritchatt, Van Pritchatt, Jr., and Winnie Pritchatt Wellford by their family.

Sanctuary flowers are given in honor, celebration, or in appreciation of those we love. We appreciate your generosity in providing flowers to adorn our sanctuary for Sunday services. **We need flower donations for the month of January.** If you are interested in donating, find the registration page at idlewildchurch.org/flower-dedication.

The 11:00 service is live at livestream.com/idlewild (Livestream apps are available for Roku and mobile devices). As always, worship is available by way of the radio on AM560, 96.1FM, or 98.5FM **Music is printed** under Onelicense.net **A-702280.**

A Vision of Idlewild

Idlewild Presbyterian Church is a community in which ...

Jesus Christ is the center;
the mighty voice of God inspires us to love;
the Spirit joyfully sustains and nurtures seekers of every age,
stage, and circumstance.

Worship forms the core of community life;
prayer binds our brokenness and connects us in Christ's love
to God and to one another;
music, poetry, and art flourish in gratitude to our Creator;
the beauty of creation is treasured and preserved;
all the members of the church are ministers.

The focus is scripture and its meaning for today;
faith is formed and spirits nourished through reflection,
practice and shared learning;
the wisdom of other faith traditions is respected;
and a diverse membership enriches and unites us.

Justice speaks loudly and peace is our aspiration;
all voices are heard;
recreation and play are a wellspring for fellowship,
celebration, and growth;
the love of God guides our minds and spirits,
leading us to right action in our hearts, our homes,
our community, our nation, and our world,

And all who enter find a home.



IDLEWILD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)
www.idlewildchurch.org | 901-726-4681



MINISTERIAL AND PROGRAM STAFF

Ministers: All the members of Idlewild Presbyterian Church

For staff phone numbers and emails visit www.idlewildchurch.org or call the church.

David J. Powers
Pastor and Head of Staff
Courtney Veazey
*Designated Associate Pastor
for Outreach & Nurture*
Mary Newberg Gale
*Transitional Associate Pastor for
Adult Formation & Care*

Joshua H. Narcisse
Parish Associate
Landry J. Duvall
Director of Music Ministries
Stephen R. Haynes
Theologian in Residence
Jeanene Mutchler
Director of Children & Youth Ministry
Corinne Nienhuis
Parish Associate Emeritus

Jacob Pierce
Director of Nurture Ministry
Shari Gross
Coordinator of Nurture Ministry
Jessica Demster
Director of Operations & Finance
Anna McCraey
Director of Communications